

# Bright vs. Gifted Students

- Children with advanced learning needs have an exceptional ability in one or more of the five areas defined in the field of gifted education: general intelligence, academic area, creativity, visual/performing arts, and/or leadership.
- The bright learner has educational strengths that can be supported and enriched within the classroom environment through differentiated instruction. The gifted learner has needs that require intervention or support beyond the regular classroom.

Bright Learners	Gifted Learners
Know the answers	Asks the questions
Is interested	Is highly curious
Is attentive	Is mentally and physically involved
Has good ideas	Has wild, creatively unusual ideas
Works hard	Plays around, yet tests well
Answers the questions	Discusses in detail; elaborates
Top group	Beyond the group
Listens with interest	Reacts with strong feelings and opinions
Learns with ease	Already knows
6-8 repetitions for mastery	1-2 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas	Constructs abstractions
Enjoys peers	Prefers adults
Grasps the meaning	Draws inferences
Completes assignments	Initiates projects
Is receptive	Is intense
Copies accurately	Creates new designs
Enjoys school	Enjoys learning
Absorbs information	Manipulates information
Technician	Inventor
Prefers straightforward tasks	Thrives on complexity
Is alert	Is keenly observant
Is pleased with own learning	Is highly self-critical

Source: Janice Szabos from *Gifted Child Quarterly*

Adapted by Paula J. Hillmann, Ph.D., Advanced Learning Resources, Ltd